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14

U. S. NAVAL AIR TEST FACILITY (SI)

LAKEHURST, NEW JERSEY

Report No. NATF(SI)-EI-114

3 May 1965

EVALUATION OF ALL AMERICAN ENGINEERING COMPANY'S MODEL 44B-2 ARRESTING GEAR WITH DEADLOADS AND AIRCRAFT

BUREAU OF NAVAL WEAPONS
PROBLEM ASSIGNMENT NUMBER RSSH-03-170/204/1



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(SHIP INSTALLATIONS)
U. S. NAVAL AIR STATION
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NATF(SI)-EI-114

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Paragraph Number	<u>Title</u>	Page
1	Introduction	1
2.	Description and Configuration	1
3	Test Results and Analysis	2 2 3 5 5
4	Comparison of Various Emergency Arresting Gears	6
5	Conclusions	9
6	Recommendations	9
7	References	9
	APPENDIX A - Deadload Test Data	A-1
	APPENDIX B - Aircraft Test Data	B-1

NATF (SI)-EI-114

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure <u>Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	Page
1	View of AAE Model 44B-2 Arresting-Gear Unit - Port	10
2	Retract Cam in Unloaded Position	11
3	View of AAE Model 44B-2 Arresting-Gear Unit Showing Retract Roller in Unloaded Position	12
4	Maximum Arresting-Hook Axial Load versus Engaging Speed - Deadload Arrestments	13
5	Maximum Purchase-Tape Tension versus Engaging Speed - Deadload Arrestments	14
6	View of Damage to the F-104G Aircraft Parachute Door Resulting from Arresting-Hook Impact during AAE Model 44B-2 Arresting-Jear Tests	15
7	Maximum Arresting-Hook Axial Load versus Engaging Speed - Aircraft Arrestments	16
8	Maximum Purchase-Tape Tension versus Engaging Speed - Aircraft Arrestments	17
9	Bar Graph of Aircraft Engaging-Speed Limits on Various Emergency Arresting Gears	18
10	Purchase-Tape Replacement Criteria for the E-27 Single-Engine Pit Installation	19

1. <u>Introduction</u>: An evaluation program of the All American Engineering (AAE) Company's Model 44B-2 arresting gear was conducted with deadloads at the Recovery Systems Track Site (RSTS) No. 5 of the U. S. Naval Air Test Facility (Ship Installations) (NATF(SI)). U. S. Naval Air Station, Lakehurst, New Jersey, as authorized by reference (a). The purpose of the deadload test program, financed by AAE (reference (b)), was to determine the basic performance characteristics of the arresting gear. Following these tests, further evaluation tests were conducted with the A-4B and F-104G aircraft, at the runway site of NATF(SI) as authorized by reference (c).

2. Description and Configuration

- a. The Model 44B-2 arresting gear has a designed energy-absorption capacity of 68 million foot-pounds and a maximum runout of 1,000 feet. In its present configuration, as described below, the arresting gear is capable of absorbing the energy of five consecutive maximum-energy arrestments or ten maximum-energy arrestments in one hour.
- b. The port and starboard arresting-gear units (see Figure 1) each consist of two basic components: the energy absorber and the retraction system.
- (1) <u>Energy Absorber</u>: The energy absorber is composed of a 44-inch-diameter cylindrical drum that contains a nine-vaned rotor (33 inches in diameter) keyed to a vertical shaft and immersed in a solution of 60% ethylene glycol and 40% water. Eight stator blades are welded to the bottom of the drum and eight to the removable cover plate. The vertical rotor shaft extends through the cover plate and is keyed to a tape reel.
- (2) <u>Tape and Tape Reel</u>: The tape reel has an outer diameter of six feet and an inner diameter of 18 inches, which consists of a 12-inch hub and a 3-inch collar. An 8-inch-wide x 0.356-inch-thick x 920-footlong uncoated nylon purchase tape is reeved on the tape reel and threaded through a deck-edge sheave located 17 feet from the tape reel.

(3) Retraction System

(a) <u>Electrical</u>: A follower attached to the upper tape-reel flange bears up against a spring-loaded cam, mating the retraction system to the arresting system, and is used for retracting and pretensioning the system. System pre-tensions range from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds. During an arrestment, a tape tension of 5,000 pounds is needed to trip the cam and uncouple the retraction system from the arresting system. The spring-loaded cam (see Figure 2) is mounted to a sprocket and connected, through a drive chain, to a gear-reduction box which is

driven by a 20-horsepower electric motor. The retraction and pretensioning is accomplished by operating an ON-OFF electrical switch on the shell covering the retraction system. To retract a 1,000-foot purchase tape and to pre-tension the system takes approximately three minutes.

- (b) Mechanical: A capstan is connected to the upper flange of the tape reel in order that mechanical retraction of the system may be accomplished in the event of failure of the electric retraction system. The arresting gear can then be retracted by wrapping rope around the capstan and pulling with a vehicle. Retracting both units through the use of a capstan can be accomplished within approximately ten minutes.
- (4) <u>Tight Tape Wrap</u>: A roller, shown in Figure 3, is utilized to obtain a tight tape wrap. By means of a winch, a 600- to 1,200-pound load is applied to the roller, which forces the roller against the tape, pressing the tape to the stack.
- c. The arresting-gear was configured to a deck-sheave span of 225 feet, with a 17-foot split from the sheave to the tape reel (both port and starboard). The following deck pendants were used:
- (1) Deadload tests 115- and 150-foot-long x 1-inch-diameter, nonrotating, hemp-core deck pendants, and
- (2) Aircraft tests 135-foot-long x 1-inch-diameter, non-rotating, hemp-core deck pendants.
- d. The energy absorber and retraction system are mounted on a steel plate that is anchored to the deck by three deadmen and ground stakes. The deck-edge sheaves are anchored to the deck by three deadmen. The above-ground height of the energy absorber and the retraction motor is 22 and 32 inches respectively.

3. Test Results and Analysis

a. <u>Deadload Tests</u>: Fifteen arrestments of various-weight deadloads were conducted at RSTS No. 5 and are summarized below:

			Range		
Deadload Weight (Lb)	No. of Events	Engaging Speed (Kn)	Arresting- Hook Axial Load (1,000 Lb)	Purchase- Tape Tension* (1,000 Lb)	Deck- Pendant Length (Ft)
20,000	7	116 - 185	29.5 - 66.8	14.6 - 35.5	115/150
24,000	1	172	60.8	34.2	150

^{*} Measured by three-sheave tensiometers.

			Range		
Deadload Weight (Lb)	No. of Events	Engaging Speed (Kn)	Arresting- Hook Axial Load (1,000 Lb)	Purchase- Tape Tension* (1,000 Lb)	Deck- Pendant Length (Ft)
30,000	3	141 - 169	42.0 - 63.8	21.0 - 31.3	150
40,000	4	123 - 169	34.0 - 75.0	16.8 - 33.0	150

^{*} Measured by three-sheave tensiometers.

- (1) The use of different-length pendants during arrestments of the 20,000-pound deadload did not result in any significant difference in arresting-gear performance.
- (2) Both arresting-gear units two-blocked during all events with the 40,000-pound deadload; the arresting-hook loads at time of two-blocking were negligible, and caused deadload walkbacks of less than 100 feet. Wet purchase tapes were used during two events with this deadload \$158- and 169-knot engaging speeds), and resulted in no significant variations in arresting-hook loads and purchase-tape tensions.
- (3) For the 15 deadload events, the working limit of the purchase tapes was set at 55,000 pounds and the working strength of the pendant was set at 46,000 pounds.
- (4) Appendix A is a tabulation of all pertinent data. Plots of maximum arresting-hook axial load and purchase-tape tension versus engaging speed are presented in Figures 4 and 5 respectively.
- b. Aircraft Tests: Eleven arrestments of the A-4B and F-104G aircraft were conducted at the runway site and are summarized below:

				Range		
Airc:	raft Weight (Lb)	No. of Events	Engaging Speed (Kn)	Arresting- Hook Axial Load (1,000 Lb)	Purchase- Tape Tension (1,000 Lb)	Deck- Pendant Length (Ft)
A-4B	15,000	4	113 - 138	16.9 - 33.8	12.2 - 21.0	135
F-104G	17,000	7	114 - 173	20.9 - 58.0	14.0 - 30.4	135

(1) Results

(a) Inspection of the A-4B aircraft after each arrestment indicated that the arresting hook was impacting the aircraft fuselage; however, the impacts were mild and no aircraft damage was observed.

- (b) The F-104G aircraft fuselage was damaged during these tests. Although the hook-impact area on the aircraft occurs at the center of the parachute door, the damage inflicted was observed fore and aft of this point. This damage consisted of buckling of the parachute door outer surface and internal damage on the door frame and pully assembly (see Figure 6). The aircraft parachute door used during these tests had been reinforced. (Note: Based on later tests with the M-21G arresting gear, there is a strong indication that the arresting-hook snubber assembly of this aircraft was not functioning properly during the above tests.)
- (c) Appendix B is a tabulation of all pertinent data. Plots of maximum arresting-hook axial load and purchase-tape tension versus engaging speed are presented in Figures 7 and 8 respectively.

(2) Aircraft Performance

- (a) The following pilot technique was used during all aircraft arrestments:
- 1. Maintain throttle setting needed to obtain the required engaging speed until wire pick-up.
- 2. Reduce throttle setting to idle after wire pick-up is assured and maintain at this position for the remainder of the arrestment.
- 3. When the aircraft speed is reduced to a speed comparable to a taxi speed, apply brakes until aircraft is completely stopped.
- (b) The energy-absorption characteristics of the arresting gear, that is, the retarding torque, is proportional to the arrested vehicle's speed; therefore, the technique described above was used to prevent two-blocking of the arresting gear. This method proved to be satisfactory.
- (c) At the conclusion of each aircraft arrestment, assistance was needed to disengage the pendant from the aircraft hook. This was accomplished with the A-4B aircraft by cautiously retracting the arresting gear, thereby moving the aircraft backward; and then, by stopping the retraction, the aircraft would roll away from the pendant. The shape of the F-104G aircraft made this method impractical because of possible aircraft damage; therefore, the pendant was removed by connecting a vehicle to the tape connector by means of a rope and pulling on the tape until the tape became slack. When the tape was slack, the pendant was manually removed from the hook.

- (d) Pilot comments for all arrestments of both aircraft were favorable. No yaw was noticed at any time, and the maximum final OFF-CENTER distance of the aircraft varied by less than 10 feet from the wire pick-up position. The deadload tests at RSTS No. 5 verified this negligible OFF-CENTER tracking characteristic.
- c. <u>Deck-Pendant Service Life</u>: Nine 1-inch-diameter deck pendants were used during the 26 arrestments conducted for this program. The following table gives pertinent pendant information and the reason replacement was required:

No. of Engagements on Deck Pendant	Highest Engaging Speed (Kn)	Reason for Replacement
5	185	5 broken wires
1	145	Deadload guides cut through pendant
3	171	Internal damage of pendant indicated
5	169	2 broken wires and excessive number of flat spots
2	172	Completion of deadload tests
2	125	Bolter - A-4B aircraft arresting hook speared pendant
0	-	Bolter - A-4B aircraft arresting hook speared pendant
7	154	Considered unacceptable for further use
2	175	Completion of aircraft tests

- d. Arresting-Gear Maintenance: The arresting gear required no major maintenance during this program.
- (1) The following minor maintenance was required prior to aircraft tests:
- (a) Three gallons of arresting-gear fluid was added to each unit.

- (b) Approximately one quart of fluid was added to the fluid couplings located between the electric retraction motor and the gear-reduction box.
- (c) The nylon purchase tapes were reversed; that is, the loops that were connected to the pendant were reversed and connected to the tape-reel hubs. This was performed because of the excessive amount of purchase-tape wear experienced during the deadload tests at RSTS No. 5, which was caused by the terrain over which the purchase tapes traveled during an arrestment.
- (2) When required during the test program, a coating of GACO was painted on those areas of the purchase tapes where excessive wear was occurring.
- 4. Comparison of Various Emergency Arresting Gears: The performance of the Model 44B-2 arresting gear indicates that it may be a highly-desirable replacement for emergency arresting-gear systems now in use. In support of this statement, the comparisons contained on the following pages are presented for the Model 44B-2, E-5-1, E-14-1, and E-27 arresting-gear systems. The comparison information was extracted from the following sources:
- a. <u>E-27</u> NATF(SI) report number NATF(SI)-EI-110 of 20 Nov 1964, subject: Aircraft Compatibility with Single E-27 (BAK-9 Pit Installation) Emergency Arresting Gear.
- b. <u>E-14-1</u> NATC report number 1 of 20 Dec 1960, subject: Evaluation of the E-14-1 "Water Squeezer" Runway Emergency Arresting Gear with Airplanes, Report No. 1, Final Report; and NATF(SI) 1tr 4210/AWB:jas of 5 Feb 1965, subject: Service-life evaluation of swivels for the E-14-1 emergency arresting gear.
- c. <u>E-5-1</u> NATF(SI) report number NATF-E-1049, SUPPL A, of 12 Apr 1962, subject: Evaluation of the E-5-1 Emergency Chain Arresting Gear Performance with Piloted Aircraft.
- d. 44B-2 This report; extrapolated from tabulated test data. in Appendixes A and B. F-8 and A-3 aircraft test data, extrapolated from deadload test data, in Appendix A.

						aph form.		44B-2	Because of past performance of similar tapes used on TM-24 arresting gear, the anticipated service life is 50 arrestments.		A concrete pad is needed Arresting gear and deckon each side of runway to edge sheaves are secured anchor the pre-tension to ground by deadmen and system. Retention "hooks" ground stakes. If pits are bolted into the runare need d, the size of the gear allows for small pits.
	(Knots)	7 1	177	180	180	mits in bar-gr		E-5-1	Report NATF-E-1049 Suppl A states a maximum of 28 arrestments before re- placement.		A concrete pad is needed on each side of runway to anchor the pre-tension system. Retention "hooks" are bolted into the runway.
	peed	1	160 152	168 162	154 162	ging-speed li		[- Report NATF-E-1049 Sup A states a maximum of - arrestments before re- placement.		A concrete on each sid anchor the system. Ret f are bolted way.
		E-27	130 1	160 1	160 1	Figure 9 of this report presents these engaging-speed limits in bar-graph form.		E-14-1	Cable and swivel inspect- Report NATF-E-1049 Suppled after 10 arrestments, A states a maximum of 28 and replaced after 20 ar- arrestments before represements.		Two ditches are needed, one on each side of runway, 5-ft wide, approx 5-ft deep, and 920-ft long, which contain 920 feet of programmed tubes. Three concrete pits are incorporated around each tube assembly. Deck-edge sheaves are mounted on each side of runway.
	Type	Aircraft	A-3	A-4	F4	this report p	ce Life				
Performance						NOTE: Figure 9 of	Purchase-Tape Service	E-27	Maximum of 20 arrestments. Figure 10 of this report provides tape replacement criteria for this gear.	Installation	Gear is installed in deep pit on side of runway with fairlead tubes under runway. Deck sheaves are mounted on each side of runway.

Retraction Time			
E-27	E-14-1	E-5-1	44B-2
3 to 4 minutes.	6 minutes.	Approximately 20 minutes.	1 to 2 minutes.
Maintenance			
A great deal of maintenance is required; this includes:	Little maintenance is required; this includes:	Little maintenance is re- Little maintenance is re- Little maintenance is exquired; this includes: pected; this includes:	Little maintenance is expected; this includes:
r of hydraulic	a. Periodic disassembly a. Replacement of shear and inspection of swivels, pins in pre-tension system of the party of the state and streetmen	pins in pre-tension sys- with additional arre-	a. Filling each unit with additional arresting pear fluid each day
equent replacement ke-selector valves, e valves, and re-	b. Filling each unit with additional arresting gear fluid every 2 or 3 arrestments,		b. Tightening of anchoring system after approximately 50 arrestments.
the hy- o that ydraulic same on	c. Replacement of shear pins in pre-tension sys- tem after each arrestment		
d. Frequent replacement of friction brakes, particularly after a series of high-energy engagements.			

5. Conclusions

- a. In its present configuration, the AAE Model 44B-2 arresting gear can arrest the F-104G aircraft at engaging speeds up to 170 knots without exceeding either the aircraft's designed maximum deceleration or arresting-hook axial load limit.
- b. The engaging-speed limit for the A-4 aircraft is extrapolated as being in excess of 170 knots.
- c. No aircraft damage was incurred when testing with the A-4 aircraft. Because all A-4 testing was conducted below a speed of 140 knots, no definite conclusions can be made as to the extent of aircraft fuselage, damage that can be expected during high-speed arrestments.
- d. The deadload test results indicate that all Navy aircraft up to a gross weight of 40,000 pounds can be arrested at speeds in excess of 160 knots without exceeding design limitations if the landing techniques described in paragraph 3b(2)(a) are used.

6. Recommendations

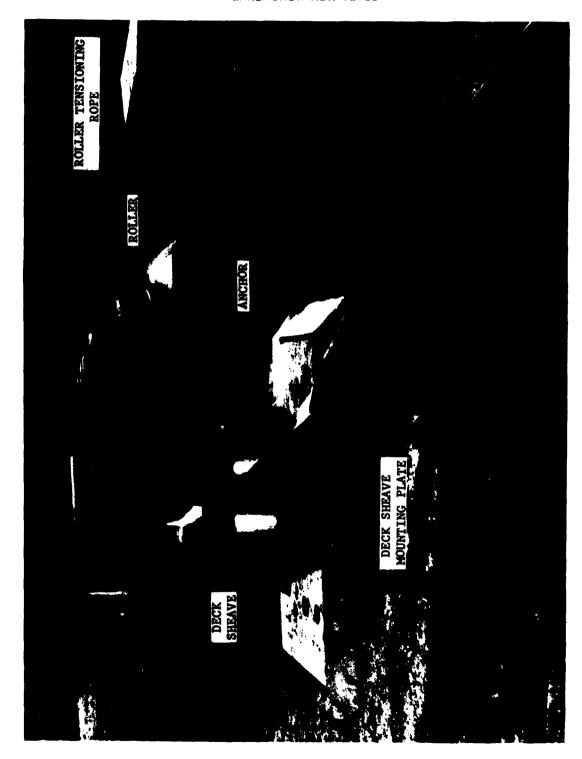
- a. Further deadload testing with the Model 44B-2 arresting gear should be conducted in order to obtain data for a complete evaluation of arresting-gear/deadload performance.
- b. The Model 44B-2 arresting gear should be considered as a replacement for the emergency arresting-gear systems now being used at shorebased installations.

7. References

- (a) BUWEPS msg 102054E of Mar 1964
- (b) AAE 1tr CA-1065 of 10 Sep 1964
- (c) BUWEPS 1tr RSSH-30/3:KEG of 27 Jan 1965

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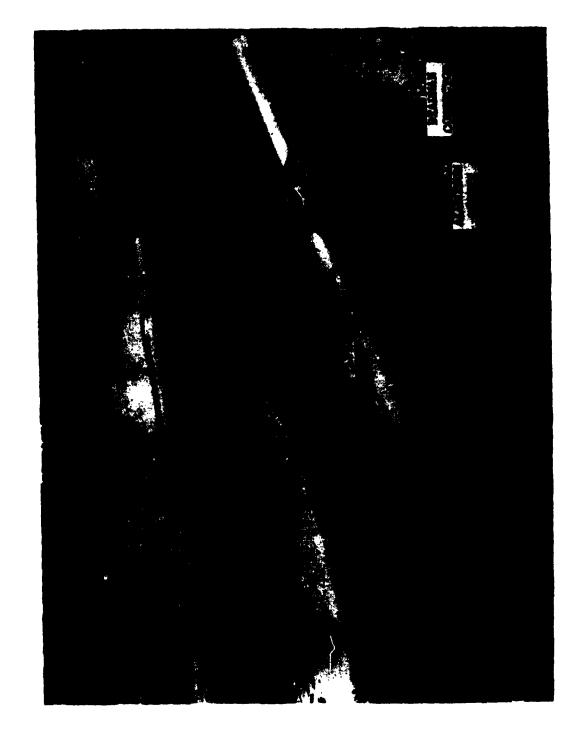


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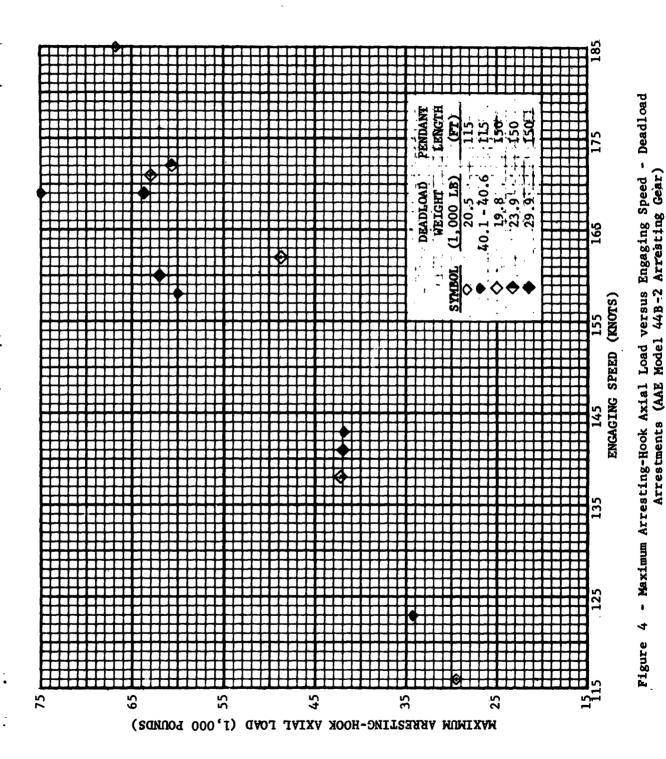
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Figure 2 - Retract Cam in Unloaded Position (AAE Model 44B-2 Arresting Gear)

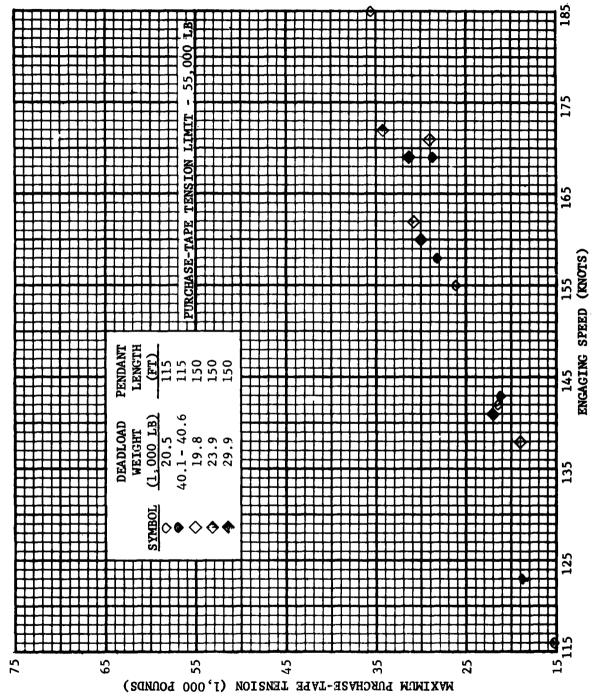


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13

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- Maximum Purchase-Tape Tension versus Engaging Speed - Deadload Arrestments (AAE Model 44B-2 Arresting Gear) Figure 5

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Figure 6 - View of Damage to the F-104G Aircraft Parachute Door Resulting from Arresting-Hook Impact during AAE Model 44B-2 Arresting-Gear Tests

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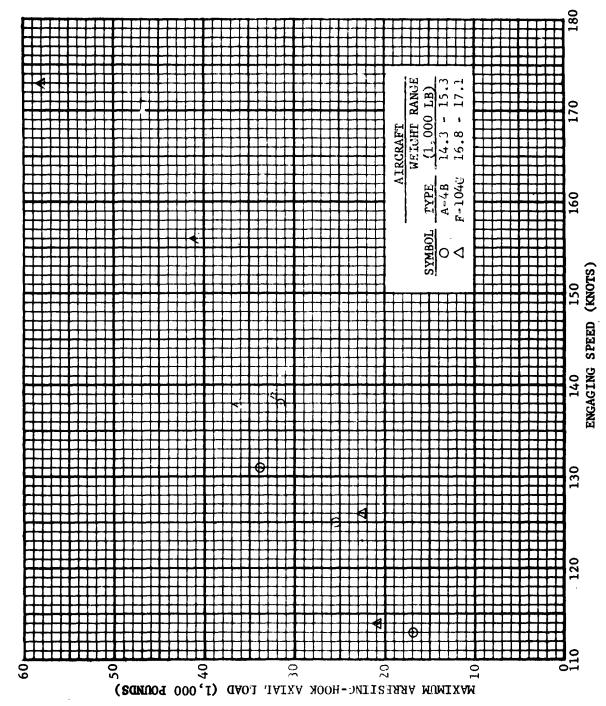
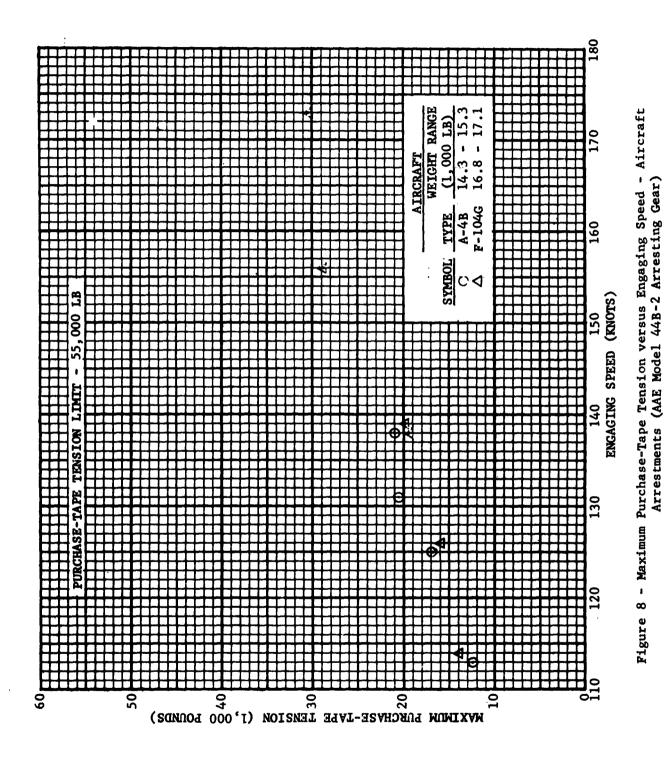


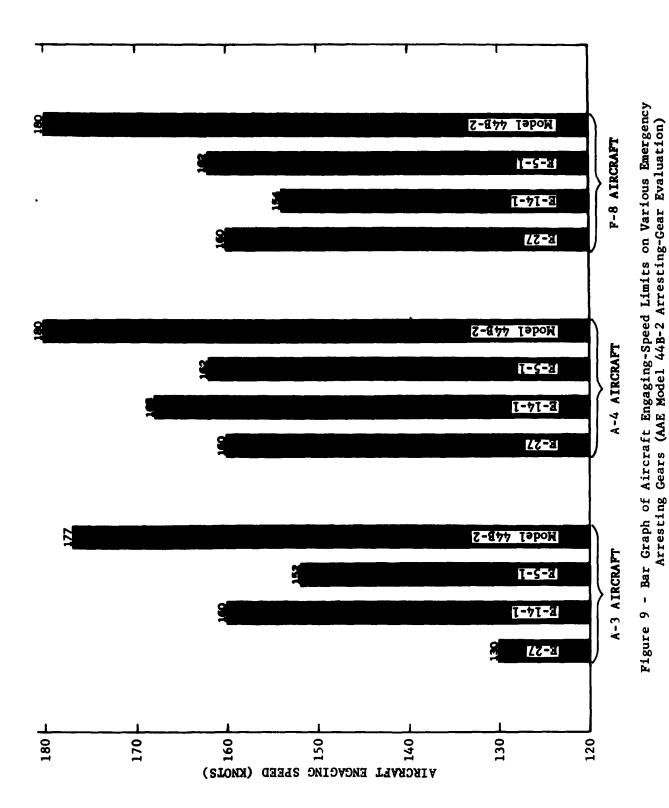
Figure 7 - Maximum Arresting-Hook Axial Load versus Engaging Speed - Aircraft Arrestments (AAE Model 44B-2 Arresting Gear)

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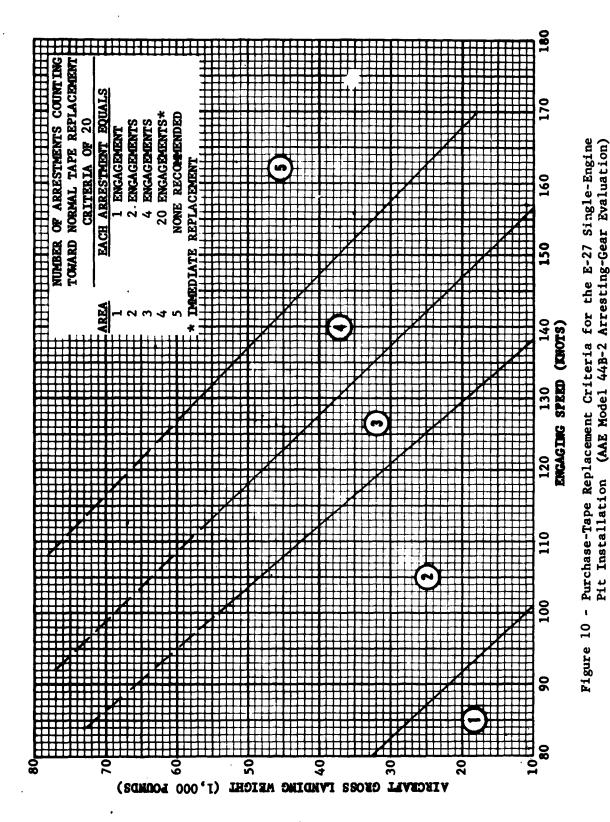
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18

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19

APPENDIX A Date E Sitt 1964 30 Nov 138 " 138 " 138 " 139 " 144 " 144 " 144 " 144 " 144 " 144 " 144 " 144	CENDIX A - DEA		DEADELOAD TEST DATA Veight Runout		OFF-CENTER Distance (Ft) Init. Fina 0 0 0 0 10 P 0 7 P 0 0 6 S 0 0 6 S 0 0 6 S 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	### ##################################	AAE MODEL 44B-2 ARRESTING GEAR OFF-CENTER Engaging Purchase-T (Ft) Speed Tension (Tr) (Ft) Speed Tension (Tr) 0 0 116 15,200 14, or 0 116 0 116 0 123 0 142 0 142 0 145 0 145 0 145 0 145 0 145 0 145 0 145 0 145 0 145 0 145 0 14 0 14 0 14 0 14 0 14 0 14 0 14 0 14 0 14 0 14 0 14 0 14 <	ESTING GEAR Purchase-Tape Tension (Lb) Port Stbd 15,200 14,600 19,000 21,400 24,000 26,100 31,300 35,500 16,800 18,700 27,100 30,900 27,100 30,900 22,000 21,000 22,000 21,000 22,000 21,000 22,000 21,000 22,000 26,000 20,400 21,100 20,400 21,100	10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	Maximum Pe Arresting- b) Hook Axial d Load (Lb) 00 29,500 00 29,500 00 34,300 00 34,300 00 42,200 00 48,900 00 63,000 00 63,800 00 63,800 00 63,800	Long. Decel (G) (G) NV NV 1.45 1.45 1.90 1.90 1.90 2.62 2.62 2.22 1.15 1.15	Remarks 115-ft x 1-inch-diameter pendant Arresting-hook load not recorded Arresting-hook load and Deceleration not recorded New Pendant prior to e- vent - DL guides cut pend 150-ft pendant New 150-ft pendant Both units two-blocked Both units two-blocked Both units two-blocked; wet purchase tapes
=	1446	├	:	1,005	0	1 1	169	33,000	28,700	75,000	1.975	Both units two-blocked; new 150-ft pendant
=	1447	16	23,922	950	0	3 S	172	31,200	31,200 34,200	60,800	2.53	

APPENDIX B - AIRCRAFT TEST DATA; AAE MODEL 44B-2 ARRESTING GEAR

ı				•							k 1		ì i	1
	•	Remarks							Tibration in nosewheel at pick-up		Slight backling of parachute door	Damage to parachute door increasing	Acft had partial loss of elec - nosewheel shimmied	
	Long.	Dece1	(3)	1.14	1.62	2.10	1.99	1.07	Î 7	56.7	69° -	1.80	N.	3.02
	Purchase-Tape Arresting- Long.	Tension (Lb) Hook Axial Decel	Load (Lb)	16,900	25,400	33,800	31,600	20,900	22. 700	34,400	3, 500	7 1 000	NV	58,000
	e-Tape	(Lb)	Stbd	12,200	16.900	18, 500	20,800	14,000	26,000	19 500	19 900	28.800	21. 600	28,800
	Purchas	Tension	Port	12,400 12,200	125 155 16,900 16,900	131 150 20.600 18,500	134 162 21 000 20,800	14, 000 14, 000	125 25 700 26, 000	138 22 18 500 19 500	139 145 16 700 19 900	156 1.64 23 800 28 800	19 500 21 600	173 164 30,400 28,800
<u> </u>			AS	121	155	50	62	777	72	- G	57	97	137	79
	g Spe		Film	121	125	131	134	113	126	1.38	139	156	W	173
	Engaging Speed	5	SPN-12 Film AS	113	125	131.	138	114	123	142	136	Ş	137	VN
		Runout	(Ft)	700	705	770	775	770	728	Ŋ	7.58	Ž	NV	850
	Aircraft	Weight	(Tp)	A-4B 15,300	14,800	14,300	14,800	17 100	17 100	1.7 1.00	16 800	17 7.00	NV.	17,100
	⋖		Type	A-4B	11		- =	F104	=	=	=	=	=	=
	Event	-	Site Proj	01	0.2	03	04	05	%	07	80	60	0,1	11
	Eve		Site	05	90	07	08	60	0.1		17	13	14	1.7
	1965	Date		3 Feb	=	4 Feb	=	5 Feb	=	6 Feb	=	=	=	9 Feb

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1. ORIGINATING ACTIVITY (Corporate author)			FIT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION						
U. S. Naval Air Test Facility (Shi	p Installations)	UNC	LASSIFIED						
U. S. Naval Air Station		25 GROU	P						
Lakehurst, New Jersey		<u> </u>							
3. REPORT TITLE									
EVALUATION OF ALL AMERICAN ENGINEER	RING COMPANY'S								
MODEL 44B-2 ARRESTING GEAR WITH DE	ADLOADS AND AIRCRA	FT							
4. DESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Tipe of report and inclusive date									
Final report	16)								
5. AUTHOR(5) (Last name, first name, initial)									
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Cocco, N.									
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6. REPORT DATE	74. TOTAL NO. OF	PAGES	76. NO. OF REFS						
3 May 1965	19		7						
Be. SONTRACT OR GRANT NO.	9. ORIGINATOR'S	EPORT NU	MBER(S)						
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b. PROJECT NO.	NATF(SI)-E	I-114							
RSSH-03-170/204/1 sh. OTHER REPORT NO(S) (Any other numbers that may be assigned this report)									
c .	\$h. OTHER REPORT	NO(5) (Any	other numbers that may be assigned						
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10. A VAIL ABILITY/LIMITATION NOTICES									
Available through BUWEPS									
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES	12 SPONSORING MIL	ITARY ACT	IVITY						
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13. ABSTRACT									
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performance. The arresting-gear per									
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from this limited program indicate									
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